

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC 2846

INFO USDOC WASHINGTON DC

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI UAE

AMEMBASSY DOHA QATAR

AMEMBASSY JIDDA SAUDI ARABIA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT KUWAIT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN SAUDI ARABIA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT OMAN

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IRAN

UNCLAS MANAMA 0258

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : ETRD, BEXP, BA

SUBJECT : 1975 TRADE STATISTICS

REF : MANAMA A-21 OF JUNE 2, 1975

1. ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF BAHRAIN (GOB) THIS MONTH, TOTAL IMPORTS TO BAHRAIN IN 1975 INCREASED ANOTHER 31 PERCENT OVER THE 1974 FIGURES AND WERE VALUED AT \$574 MILLION. AS HAS BEEN TRUE IN ALL RECENT YEARS EXCEPT 1974, THE UNITED KINGDOM REMAINED THE MAJOR EXPORTER TO BAHRAIN (WITH 19 PERCENT OF THE MARKET VALUED AT \$107 MILLION).

2. FOLLOWING THE U.K. WAS THE U.S.A. WITH 16 PERCENT OF THE MARKET VALUED AT \$91 MILLION; THIRD WAS JAPAN WITH 12 PERCENT OF THE MARKET VALUED AT \$68 MILLION; FOURTH, THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA WITH 6 PERCENT VALUED AT \$36 MILLION; AND, FIFTH, AND SIXTH, ITALY AND AUSTRALIA, RESPECTIVELY.

3. BAHRAIN'S EXPORTS, EXCLUDING OIL, REMAINED WEAK. THE
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TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND REEXPORTS WAS \$210 MILLION, MOST

OF THAT BEING REEXPORTS. BAHRAIN'S ONLY TWO SIGNIFICANT EXPORTS, ASIDE FROM OIL, ARE ALUMINUM AND SHRIMP.

4. ONE OTHER ITEM REGARDING THE STATISTICS IS WORTH NOTING: THE USSR AND THE EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES GENERALLY CONSTITUTE AN INSIGNIFICANT PART OF THE BAHRAINI MARKET.

5. MAJOR ITEMS OF IMPORT CONTINUED TO BE: (A) MACHINERY, OTHER THAN ELECTRIC \$113 MILLION; (B) ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES \$60 MILLION; (C) TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT, \$42 MILLION; (D) IRON AND STEEL, \$34 MILLION; (E) TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, ETC., \$32 MILLION; (F) CLOTHING, \$25 MILLION. OF THESE, ABOUT HALF THE IRON AND STEEL AND TEXTILES WERE RE-EXPORTED TO SAUDI ARABIA.

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